DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF EDUCATION,
WASHINGTON.

AMERICAN LITERATURE.

In other courses of reading, already arranged by the Bureau of Education, books have been selected from the literature of most or all of the culture peoples of the world. There are, however, many individuals who would like to have some direction for a course of reading in American literature alone, to the end that they may gain some knowledge of those books that express our own ideals, purposes, and tendencies. For these the following list of books has been arranged. In this as in other lists no claim is made for any book that it is absolutely the best of its class. Comparative merit in literature, especially in modern literature, is largely a matter of personal judgment. But the list has been selected with much care and with the advice of scholarly men whose judgment in this subject is of the highest value. Poetry and history have been excluded. These will be included in other courses of reading to be arranged later.

For admission to this course it is necessary only to write to the Home Education Division of the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C., giving your name, post-office address, your age, and a very brief statement of your education and occupation.

Readers who wish to secure the bureau's certificate must notify the bureau at the time they begin each book, and when each book is finished they must send a summary consisting of a description of the principal characters, the chief episodes, and their own impressions. Some of the books do not lend themselves to this form of summary. In those cases send a brief statement of the essential features of each book.

By application to local or State libraries readers may be able to borrow these books. The Bureau of Education does not furnish them.

To each person who gives satisfactory evidence of having read all the books on the list a certificate will be awarded bearing the seal of the United States Bureau of Education and signed by the Commissioner of Education. All young men and women who want to know the best there is in the literature of the world and to gain the inspiration it gives are invited to join this national reading circle, and it is hoped many thousands may do so.

Charles Alphonso Smith, Edgar Allan Poe professor of English in the University of Virginia; Charles Forster Smith, professor of Greek in the University of Wisconsin; Richard Burton, professor of English literature in the University of Minnesota; and William Lyon Phelps, professor of English litera-

ture in Yale University, will assist the Bureau of Education in directing this course.

In writing about this course refer to it as "United States Bureau of Education, Home Education Division, Reading Course No. 8," or as "the American Literature Course."

READING COURSE NO. VIII.

1. The American ..... Henry James.
2. Autocrat of the Breakfast Table ..... Oliver Wendell Holmes.
3. Ben Hur ..... Lewis Wallace.
4. Bigelow Papers ..... James Russell Lowell.
5. Essays ..... Ralph Waldo Emerson.
6. Representative Men ..... Ralph Waldo Emerson.
7. Democracy ..... James Russell Lowell.
8. The Federalist ..... Alexander Hamilton.
9. Four Million ..... O. Henry.
10. Goldbug, etc. ..... Edgar Allan Poe.
11. The Grandissimes ..... George Washington Cable.
12. Huckleberry Finn ..... Mark Twain.
13. Tom Sawyer ..... Mark Twain.
14. Last of the Mohicans ..... J. Fenimore Cooper.
15. Luck of Roaring Camp ..... Bret Harte.
16. Man Without a Country ..... Edward Everett Hale.
17. Marble Faun ..... Nathaniel Hawthorne.
18. Scarlet Letter ..... Nathaniel Hawthorne.
19. A Modern Instance ..... William Dean Howells.
20. Montcalm and Wolfe ..... Francis Parkman.
21. My Summer in a Garden ..... Charles Dudley Warner.
22. Reign of Law ..... James Lane Allen.
23. The Sketch Book ..... Washington Irving.
24. Two Years Before the Mast ..... R. H. Dana.
25. Walden ..... Henry David Thoreau.

SOME GOOD HELPS TO LITERATURE.

1. What Can Literature Do for Me? C. Alphonso Smith.
   Garden City, N. Y., Doubleday Page & Co. $1.
2. Great Books as Life Teachers. Newton Dwight Hillis.
   Chicago, Ill., Fleming H. Revell. $1.50.
3. Literature and Life. W. D. Howells.
   New York, Harper & Bros. $2.25.
4. Aims of Literary Study. H. Corson.
   New York, Macmillan Co. $0.75.
5. World's Literature and Its Place in General Culture. R. G. Moulton.
   New York, Macmillau Co. $1.75.

NOTE.—When no publisher is mentioned the books may be obtained at varying prices, depending on the quality of the edition. Apply to any store selling books or to any book dealer or publisher.

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